

# We Create Community



## Greenbelt Heights Improvement Project Grand Opening



A Grand Opening celebration was held on September 10 for the first phase of the greenbelt improvement project along the Pacific Electric Right of Way (PE ROW) between

7th and 8th Streets near Roswell Avenue.

Residents enjoyed musical entertainment and refreshments while viewing the project which includes native and drought tolerant trees and shrubs, benches and natural seating areas, and a 10-foot-wide decomposed granite pathway, that enhances Long Beach’s “walkability” and “bikeability” by adding routes for walkers and cyclists.

Greenbelt Heights is the first completed project of the Pacific Electric Right of Way South Master Plan, for the development of the former Pacific Electric Red Car rail line into an area with recreational amenities. The project construction cost of \$254,000 was funded by the City Gas Tax.

The project is divided into five phases: Fourth and Park, Park to Ximeno, Ximeno to Termino, Termino to Mira Mar, and Mira Mar to Loma. The next project to be started is the Park to Ximeno section.

Historically, the greenbelt was used as a train track that

came from Los Angeles to Zaferia Station in Long Beach and then to Orange County. This 10.94-acre site at 4<sup>th</sup> St. and Park Ave., between 11<sup>th</sup> Street and Loma Ave. was acquired in 1963 when the Pacific Electric Railway abandoned its right-of way south of 11<sup>th</sup> Street and Loma Ave.



### Pacific Electric Right of Way Parks and Open Space Areas

Park	Acres	Address	Dedication Date
Jenni Rivera	3.17	2001 Walnut Ave.	July 2015
NAACP	2.8	2300 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.	September 2015
Orizaba	3.72	Orizaba Ave. & Spaulding St.	August 2014
Plaza Zaferia	.81	Redondo and Pacific Coast Hwy.	1957
Rotary Centennial	1.17	Junipero and Pacific Coast Hwy.	2005

# Family Donates Disability Beach Access Wheelchairs



Thanks go out to the Freeman family for fundraising and donating two new beach access wheelchairs to the City of Long Beach. Last month, Long Beach residents Mike and Cheri Freeman asked for help to replace their son Patrick's stolen beach access wheelchair that allowed him access to the beach and water. Like Patrick's chair, the donated wheelchairs are unique because they have buoyancy to float on the water compared to the several standard all-terrain wheelchairs located throughout the city.

After AccessRec LLC, the beach wheelchair manufacturer, donated a replacement to Patrick, the family raised enough money to donate two of the chairs to the City of Long Beach. The family still hopes to reach their goal of

raising \$20,000 to donate a total of 10 wheelchairs at Southern California beaches through their [www.youcaring.com/disabled-visitors-at-public-beaches-620356](http://www.youcaring.com/disabled-visitors-at-public-beaches-620356) account. Once funds for a third beach wheelchair have been met, the family plans on making the donation in the Los Angeles area.



Contact Beach Lifeguard Headquarters at (562) 570-1360 or Leeway Sailing Center at (562) 570-1719 for more information about checking out one of these special chairs.

*Scott Mitchell and Scott Dixon, of Beach / Lifeguard Operations with beach access wheelchair.*

## California Coastal Cleanup Day A Big Success



September 17 marked another successful Coastal Cleanup Day in Long Beach. El Dorado Nature Center partnered with the California Coastal Commission to coordinate cleanups at Alamitos Bay Marina, Sea Scout Base, the Peninsula, Belmont Pier, Bluff Park, and Cherry Beach. Joining in the effort as site captains were the Aquarium of the Pacific, the Seal Beach Yacht Club, the Long Beach Marine Institute, Clean LB, and the Long Beach Water Department.

In just three hours, over 1,400 volunteers removed 4,500 pounds of debris from our coastline. Three large groups joined in the cleanup efforts at our main Belmont Pier site. ARLA, Tokio Marine Management, and You Think rallied volunteers from all over Southern California.

Community organizations joined El Dorado Nature Center to educate the public about issues related to marine debris, wildlife, and the health of our coastline. Thanks to Algalita Marine Research and Education Foundation, the Surfrider Foundation, El Dorado Audubon Society and the Long Beach Stormwater Division. Our common goal is to raise awareness and encourage people to make changes in their lives to limit the amount of trash that gets out into the environment. Even small changes make a big impact!

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- By Meaghan O'Neill, Community Services Supervisor,  
El Dorado Regional Park and Nature Center



# Community Recreation Services

## BE SAFE Fun Included Kids Vs. Staff Dodgeball



For the fourth consecutive summer Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine offered the BE S.A.F.E., "Summer Activities in a Friendly Environment" program. The nine-week program kept several parks open later in the evening for classes, sports, games, tournaments, and recreation and fitness activities. At Admiral Kidd Park, staff challenged kids to dodgeball game. The victorious youth are still smiling over their win. With support from the Long Beach City Council, four new BE S.A.F.E. sites, Bixby, Drake, Ramona and Pan American Parks will be added in 2017.

### By the Numbers: Community Recreation Services - August 2016

Permits to Gather .....	247
Reserved Picnic Sites .....	62
Number of Contract Classes .....	139
Facility Use Permits Issued .....	56
Field Use Permits Issued .....	98
Adult Sports League Participants .....	6,764
Visits to City / City Operated LBUSD Pools .....	8,757
El Dorado Regional Park Paid Entries .....	13,350
El Dorado Regional Park Annual Passes .....	522
Youth and Teen Participants .....	66,989
Senior Citizen Participants .....	44,526
Visits to the El Dorado Nature Center .....	20,638

# YOUTH FISHING DERBY

**FREE!**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21**

**EL DORADO REGIONAL PARK**  
7550 E. SPRING ST.  
LONG BEACH, CA 90815

- Registration: 8-9 a.m.
- Fishing Derby: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- Raffle: 1 p.m.

**PRIZES AND REFRESHMENTS!**

This is a free children's fishing derby. Fishing poles and tackle to catch fish will be provided to kids 15 years old and under for free. Anyone over 16 years old is required to have a California State Fishing License.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:**  
El Dorado Regional Park (562) 570-1771



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DISTRIBUTION AUTHORIZED: *Chris Lopez*

# El Dorado West Sugar Peach Festival

2800 N. Studebaker Rd Long Beach, CA 90815

**Saturday, November 5, 2016**

**9:00am-3:00pm**

For more information  
(562) 570-3227



# Colorado Lagoon Improvements Continue



Additional improvements are underway at Colorado Lagoon to create additional ecological resources for aquatic life as well as birds.

In September 2016, crews began to dredge and move sediment from the central basin to the north arm of the lagoon, near Monrovia Avenue, where the water will become shallower. This will facilitate the hydrological conditions for eelgrass, salt marsh, sage scrub and freshwater plants to grow, which will greatly enhance the ecological value of the Lagoon. The creation of new intertidal and shallow subtidal habitat and eelgrass beds will provide foraging for local birds at one of Southern California's last remaining coastal lagoons.

The playgrounds and picnic areas at the Colorado Lagoon will remain open, but water access will be closed during construction, which is expected to last until early 2017.

Other improvements will include:

- Replacing the asphalt road with a vegetated bioswale and pedestrian trail
- Extending the floating pier and footbridge to span the expanded subtidal areas
- Adding 16 new piles to support the structure
- Repainting the pier replacing the stairs with ADA-compliant ramps
- Installing pedestrian amenities such as log seating, benches, bike racks and interpretative signage

Previous restoration activities have vastly improved the water quality. Low flow diversion systems and trash capture devices continue to prevent new contaminants and debris from entering the Colorado Lagoon, and contamination has been removed from the Lagoon bottom.

The transformation of the Colorado Lagoon has been possible thanks to the support of local residents, and the partnership and collaboration with the Friends of Colorado Lagoon, and State and Federal agencies.

For more information, visit [www.longbeach.gov/city-manager/tidelands-capital-improvement-division/](http://www.longbeach.gov/city-manager/tidelands-capital-improvement-division/).



# Know Your Long Beach Park: Orange Mini Park



Orange Mini Park at the corner of Orange Avenue and San Antonio Drive is a testament to the power of community involvement. On September 28, 2002, over 120 vol-

unteers from Toyota Motor Sales worked with Parks, Recreation and Marine staff to transform a vacant .31-acre former gas station lot into a new park, as a project of National Public Lands Day (NPLD). NPLD is an annual volunteer program brings volunteers together to enhance and protect public lands.

The Long Beach City College Horticulture Department assisted with the site design and the Long Beach Department of Public Works assisted with site preparation. The office of the 8<sup>th</sup> City Council District supported that project with funds to purchase materials.

The project involved adding soil amendments for planted areas and decomposed granite for walkways. A total of 380 feet of fencing and four park benches were installed.



## El Dorado Regional Park National Public Lands Day Event



On National Public Lands Day (NPLD) on September 24, El Dorado Nature Center solicited volunteers to remove debris and fishing line from the lake in Area 3 of El Dorado Regional Park. NPLD was created by the National Environmental Education Foundation to promote the enjoyment and volunteer conservation of public lands. Visit [www.lbparcs.org](http://www.lbparcs.org) in September to learn about NPLD events for 2017.

Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine also sponsors several opportunities to be an environmental steward throughout the year. Visit [www.longbeach.gov/naturecenter](http://www.longbeach.gov/naturecenter) for more information these volunteer opportunities:

*1st Saturday Stewards:* Every first Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. to noon volunteers gather at El Dorado Nature Center to help clear the stream and trails or pull weeds. Call 572.570.1745 to get involved. Wear sturdy shoes and sunscreen, and bring water. Upcoming dates are November 5, December 3, January 7 and February 4.

*Wetland Warriors Cleanup:* Only five percent of California's once vast wetlands remain. Join the Weekend Wetland Warrior Team to help protect the habitat at Golden Shore Marine Biological Reserve. Saturdays, November 19; December 17; January 21 and February 18 from 10 a.m. to noon. Meet at 101 Golden Shore Avenue.

*Earth Day Beach Cleanup:* While everyday is earth day, a beach cleanup is held every April to give residents a chance to support clean, safe beaches and waterways.

The *California Coastal Cleanup Day*, held on the third Saturday of September is the largest volunteer event in California makes a big impact on the health and beauty of our coastline.

# Animal Care Services Update

## Friends of Long Beach Animals Donates Medical Suite to Long Beach Animal Care Services



Long Beach Animal Care Services (LBACS) has enhanced conditions for medical staff to provide lifesaving treatments to the thousands of animals admitted to the Long Beach shelter every year.

A generous donation from Friends of Long Beach Animals (FOLBA), a nonprofit organization dedicated to responsible pet ownership, education and humane treatment of animals, a new 800 square foot medical suite will provide a much larger space for the LBACS medical team to perform their life saving and life enhancing work. FOLBA's donation purchased and installed the suite which includes a dedicated surgery room, spay / neuter equipment, examination tables and equipment, and recovery cages.

"I am very grateful for the generous donation of the medical suite by the Friends of Long Beach Animals," said Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine Director Marie Knight. "This will help more animals be in a better position to be adopted."

In the near future, LBACS will be looking for a partner organization or sponsor to use the medical suite to provide free or low cost spay/neuter surgeries to the public.

For more information about the new LBACS animal medical suite, call 562.570.1725.

Check out the Long Beach Animal Care Services web site at [www.longbeach.gov/acs](http://www.longbeach.gov/acs). Download the free Long Beach Animal Care Services mobile app on iTunes or Google Play. Become a friend on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/LongBeachAnimalCare](http://www.facebook.com/LongBeachAnimalCare) and follow LBACS on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/lbanimalcare) and [Instagram@lbanimalcare](https://www.instagram.com/lbanimalcare) to keep up on the latest news for people and animals.

## Animals Care Explorers Build Leadership Skills

In a unique partnership with the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Los Angeles (spcaLA), the Long Beach Animal Care Services Bureau (ACS), young people are building character, leadership skills and awareness of careers related to animal care and control.

ACS's Animal Care Explorers Program is a partnership with Learning for Life, an affiliate of the Boy Scouts to provide career training for qualified youth ages 14-19 who wish to serve the public and make the region safer for people and animals. Participants learn about careers related to public safety and the humane treatment of animals. They are exposed to issues concerning animal handling, veterinary care, herd health care, rabies control, law enforcement, wildlife management, and special investigations. The program is a yearlong commitment starting each January and consists of monthly meetings/trainings, educational field trips and volunteer service.

The Explorers are seen here with ACS Lead Registered Veterinary Technician Allyne Moon on a tour of the ACS medical rooms. Allyne answered the Explorer's questions about medical procedures.



# MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS UPDATE

Parks, Recreation and Marine Facility Maintenance staff recently completed the resurfacing of the sports courts at Marina Vista Park. In an effort to bring a greater impact and brighten up the two courts, the color was changed from green and red to a bright blue and green.



Crews performed a high pressure wash to remove debris, chips and spalls from the concrete surface and used a special patch compound to make repairs prior to replacing with the sports court surface and adding new nets.

## *By the Numbers: Maintenance Operations Bureau September 2016*

### **Community Service Workers Program**

Total number of persons enrolled for September: .....	229
Total number of hours worked at Queensway Bay: .....	266
<i>(Water cleanup, debris removal, litter pickup)</i>	
Total number of hours worked at Beach Maintenance: .....	207
<i>(Litter pickup along beach areas, parking lots, Belmont Pool area, Ocean Blvd., Peninsula area and maintenance yard)</i>	
Total number of hours worked at Marine Maintenance: .....	316
<i>(Litter pickup including Belmont Pier, maintenance building, and assist with custodial work)</i>	
Total number of hours worked at El Dorado Park areas: .....	287
<i>(Litter pickup, custodial and facility sites including Tree Farm and Night Crew)</i>	
Total number of hours worked at Tree Farm: .....	105
<i>(Litter pickup, custodial and facility)</i>	
Total number of hours worked at Los Cerritos Wetlands: .....	308
<i>(Litter pickup and vegetation removal of Sims Pond, Golden Shore, Colorado Lagoon and other Various Wetlands)</i>	
Total number of hours worked at special clean-ups: .....	1,195
<i>(Neighborhood clean-ups and events, graffiti paint-outs)</i>	

### **Total number of CSW hours for August 2016**

Work orders completed: .....	559
Restrooms cleaned on a daily basis bureau wide: .....	172
Facilities and Gymnasiums cleaned and stocked daily: .....	28
Park turf acres maintained: .....	814
Park landscape acres maintained: .....	3,120
Street (medians) turf acres maintained: .....	53
Street landscape acres maintained: .....	212

### **Water Use:**

MOB GP105 Water cost & Consumption for September:		
Parks and Street Island Potable (Estimate): .....	33,987	\$119,181
Parks and Street Island Reclaimed: .....	88,753	\$144,156

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## October

Sat. 15	10 a.m.	Wetland Warrior Cleanup	Golden Shore Marine Reserve
Sun. 16	1:30 p.m.	*"Science & Humanities, A Meeting of Minds" Lecture	Rancho Los Alamitos
Wed. 19	9 a.m.	Senior Citizen Advisory Commission	Long Beach Senior Center
Th. 20	9 a.m.	Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting	El Dorado Senior Center
	4 p.m.	Low Cost Pet Vaccination Clinic	Scherer Park
Mon. 24	Varies	*New Mon./Wed. Swim Lesson Sessions Begin	Silverado Park Pool
Tue. 25	Varies	*New Tue./Th. Swim Lesson Sessions Begin	King Park Pool
Sat. 29	Varies	*New Saturday Swim Lesson Sessions Begin	King and Silverado Park Pools
Sun. 30	12 p.m.	Children's Fall Harvest Festival	Rancho Los Alamitos

## November

Th. 3	4 p.m.	Low Cost Pet Vaccination Clinic	Scherer Park
Sat. 5	10 a.m.	Free "Creation Station" arts & crafts for kids	Rancho Los Cerritos
	10 a.m.	*"First Saturday Stewards" Volunteer Clean-Up Event	El Dorado Nature Center
	10 a.m.	Wetland Warrior Cleanup	Golden Shore Marine Reserve
Mon. 7		Winter class registration starts today	Visit <a href="http://www.lbparks.org">www.lbparks.org</a>
Tue. 8	7 p.m.	*Naturalist-led Nightlife Walk	El Dorado Nature Center
Th. 10	2 p.m.	Marine Advisory Commission Meeting	Long Beach Yacht Club
Sat. 12	9:30 a.m.	Low Cost Pet Vaccination and Licensing Clinic	Drake Park
	11:30 a.m.	Low Cost Pet Vaccination and Licensing Clinic	Chavez Park
Sun. 13	8 a.m.	Free Audubon Bird Walk	El Dorado Nature Center
Wed. 16	9 a.m.	Senior Citizen Advisory Commission Meeting	Long Beach Senior Center
	6 p.m.	Commission on Youth and Children Meeting	El Dorado Park West
Th. 17	9 a.m.	Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting	El Dorado Senior Center
	4 p.m.	Low Cost Pet Vaccination Clinic	Scherer Park
Sat. 19	7 a.m.	Kids' Fishing Derby	El Dorado Regional Park
Th. 24		Thanksgiving	
Fri. 25		City Holiday	

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